

English XII

# DADA OFFICIAL



Part 2

POEM

## **XII ENGLISH POEM**

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| <b>1. THE SEVEN AGES OF MAN</b>                | <b>21</b> |
| William Shakespeare                            |           |
| <b>2. THE MAN OF LIFE UPRIGHT</b>              | <b>23</b> |
| Thomas Campion                                 |           |
| <b>3. LINES FROM SAMSON AGONISTES</b>          | <b>25</b> |
| John Milton                                    |           |
| <b>4. LINES FROM AN ESSAY ON MAN</b>           | <b>26</b> |
| Alexander Pope                                 |           |
| <b>5. THE SOLITARY REAPER</b>                  | <b>28</b> |
| William Wordsworth                             |           |
| <b>6. MUSIC WHEN SOFT VOICES DIE</b>           | <b>30</b> |
| Percy Bysshe Shelley                           |           |
| <b>7. LINES FROM ENDYMION</b>                  | <b>31</b> |
| John Keats                                     |           |
| <b>8. SAY NOT THE STRUGGLE NAUGHT AVAILETH</b> | <b>33</b> |
| Arthur Hugh Clough                             |           |
| <b>9. LINES FROM ULYSSES</b>                   | <b>34</b> |
| Lord Alferd Tennyson                           |           |

# THE SEVEN AGES OF MAN

## **1<sup>st</sup> stage (INFANCY):**

Each person's role starts being an infant. This stage interprets innocent, helpless and depending life. During his role, he is quite weak who depends on his nurse and without her he cannot grow well.

"Sweet babe, in thy face,  
Soft desires I can trace,  
Secret joys and secret smiles,  
Little, pretty, infant wiles"

## **2<sup>ND</sup> STAGE (CHILDHOOD):**

(Second role is of a school going boy when life is amusement which he seeks in their playful activities. He is unwilling to go to school as he is un-interested in his studies. He cries while going to school) because he feels it entirely against his freedom.

"Childhood is the most beautiful of all life's seasons"

## **3<sup>RD</sup> STAGE (YOUTH):**

(In this stage, he appears to be a young emotional lover. He sighs for his beloved and writes Ballads in praise of her beauty. If he fails in love, he sings melancholic songs.)

"Love is a smoke made with the fumes of sighs"

## **4<sup>th</sup> stage (SOLDIER):**

(In this stage, man performs the role of a soldier. As he is young and on full swing, he is always ready to quarrel others. He wishes to achieve something which makes him famous) whether it is temporary and to get fame he does not hesitate to put his life into danger.

"I am a soldier, I fight where I am told and I win where I fight"

## **5<sup>th</sup> stage (JUDGE):**

(At this stage, man has to play a role of Justice. This role is named as Justice because now he becomes a mature man with wisdom and intellect. He is also fond of eating so he becomes fat and bulky) In his talk to, he possesses to have become wise and uses sayings from modern thinkers in his conversation in order to show that he is a well read man.

"Justice without wisdom is impossible"



### 6<sup>th</sup> stage (OLD AGE):

(In this stage, man enters into his sixties. Wearing slipper and loose dress with a glasses on his nose, he looks like a clown. His legs grow so thin that the socks, which he wore in his youth, become too wide for him and his voice becomes shrill like that of the child.

"I truly believe that age- if you're healthy – age is just a number"

### 7<sup>th</sup> stage (LAST STAGE OR SECOND CHILDHOOD):

(This stage is the closing chapter of his life and is the time of exit. He again becomes dependent upon others as he was in infancy. Shakespeare called this age as second childhood because he is again without teeth, eyes and he cannot taste anything. He is like a moving skeleton.) As a matter of fact, this stage is the most pitiable stage of man's life.

"An old man is twice a child"

## THE MAN OF LIFE UPRIGHT

Q1: What is the message of the poem "Man of Life Upright"?

OR

What are the qualities of upright man according to Campion?

Ans: An upright man possesses a pure and simple heart. He does not do any dishonest deeds so his heart is free from evil thoughts. He spends his life in simple joy of life without harming anyone. He has no enemy that is why he does not need any armor to defense himself. He is afraid of none but God. He faces all the hardships and difficulties of life bravely thinking that it is his try from God. He does not envy others. He believes earth to be a temporary home and that he has to go to his eternal home after his death.

*"An honest man is the noblest work of God"*

Q2: From where does an upright man take his wisdom?

possesses =	پاس پونا
dishonest deed =	بجائے نیکی کا کام / بدکاری
evil:	برائی
hardship:	مشقت / سختی
envy:	حسد
eternal:	ابدی / دائمی
wisdom:	حکمت
seeks:	تلاش کرتا ہے
Companion:	ساتھی
Calamities:	آفت / آفات
calmly:	سکون سے
firm:	پختہ / مضبوطی
Courage:	ہمت



**Ans:** An upright man does not care for worldly worries or pleasure that may come in his way by bad luck or good luck. He makes nature his teacher. All his wisdom is arrived from object of nature. Even in worldly affairs he seeks guidance from nature and acts accordingly.

“Come forth in to the light of things, let nature be your teacher”

**Q3:** Why does an upright man neither need any defense nor afraid of anything?

**Ans:** An upright man is confident and brave and does not depend on material sources. In a battle, he depends upon God and seeks help from him. He does not have strong forts or weapons of war for his safety. He believes that his honest deeds are his only assets and real companions. He faces all the hardships and calamities calmly. His faith in God remains firm.

“Faith is the force of Life”

**Q4:** Describe the bravery of an upright man? How does he pass his time?

**Ans:** The poet, Thomas Campion, says that an upright man has the courage to face the anger of the ocean and the terror of the skies boldly. When there comes unexpected troubles in life or when there are moments of danger, it is only an upright man who can face them boldly and courageously. He is not afraid of anything but God so he does not need a secret place to hide himself.

“Love people, but put your full trust only in God”

An upright man passes his time in simple joys of life without harming any one.

He is not deceived by his hopes nor he is disheartened by sorrows. Thus he is always happy and discontented.

“Faith is the force of Life”

## **LINES FROM SAMSON AGONISTES**

**Q1:** Who was Samson and how he was taken captive?

**Ans:** Samson was a real legendary character of Christian history. He was the son of Manoah who belonged to Israel. He was a man of stupendous strength and was a warrior of his race. He married a young beautiful girl named Delilah. He was taken captive through the treachery of his wife by the Philistines who were deadly enemies of his race.

“ Fire tries gold, misery tries brave man ”

Q2: What did Samson do to destroy the enemies of his race?

OR

What was the last performance of Samson?

OR

How did Samson show his strength ?

OR

How did Samson take revenge from the philistines. The deadly enemy of his race ?

**Ans:** Blinded Samson was brought at the temple of Dagon, city of Gaza, to perform feats of his strength.

As Samson was a man of immense strength, he gathered all his nerves and applied full force to shake the pillars which supported the roof of hall. The pillar's trembled just as he shook them to and fro till the roof came down with a thundering noise. All those who were present there to watch his performance were killed and Samson was also with them. Thus, Samson brought destruction on Philistines.

“ Fire tries gold, misery tries brave man ”

## LINES FROM AN ESSAY ON MAN

Q1: In what way is Death a great teacher in the eyes of Alexander pope?

**Ans:** Pope names Death “great teacher” because it teaches us that we don't have to stay in this world forever and we have to die one day and has to leave this world. Therefore, we must keep on doing virtuous deeds in the world and must keep on admiring God in every thick and thin so that we can make ourselves ready for the accountability to God. We should be thankful to God for the blessing of hope and ignorance of future.

According to Author:

“ Intellectual growth should commence at birth and cease only at death “

Q2: What is the moral and message of the poem?

**Ans:** Pope's idea behind his poem entitled, “An Essay on man”, is illustrated as

“ Ignorance of future ills is more useful thing than knowledge ”

Stupendous = شاندار

Captive = اسیر/قیدی

treachery = غداری

feat = کارنامہ

immense = بے پناہ

trembled = کانپنا



The poet says that blindness to the future is a blessing kindly given by God. It enables us to face hard realities of life with undying courage, hope and determination.

**"Hope sustains the world"**

Human soul is restless in the world. He always hopes to be in better place to future. It is far from its real home, paradise. We must pray to God, serve humanity and hope to be blessed by God.

**Q3: What example has the poet given about the blessing of God in the poem**

**"An Essay on man"?**

**An:** In order to justify his opinion and perception, has given a beautiful example of a lamb, which is a beautiful animal. It does not know about his future and skips and plays. It eats flowery food and is pleased to the last. It shows his faithfulness by licking his master's hand that is about to kill him. If it knew its future, it would not behave the way it does.

**"What future blessed, he gives not thee to know But gives that hope to be thy blessings now"**

**Q4: How do the lines from "An Essay on Man" justify pope's opinion that ignorance of future and hope are two great blessings?**

**Ans:** The poem "An Essay on Man" justifies pope's opinion focusing the following:  
If man had known his future, it would have absolutely become impossible for him to complete his destined cycle of life according to wishes. Pope supports his thought by giving an example of a playful Lamb, who is unaware of its fate of being sacrificed by its master.  
The poem expresses the thought that hope is a great blessing granted by God. Hope encourages man to carry on struggle. Human soul is restless in the world. He always hopes and strives to be in better place. It is far from its real world, Paradise.

**"What future blessed, he gives not thee to know But gives that hope to be thy blessings now"**

**Q5: How does the poem "Lines from the essay on man" suggest that blindness of future is a blessing of God for us? (2016)**



**Ans:** According to the poet Alexander Pope, Men's knowledge is limited to the present. He is not aware of the future. This is indeed a great blessing of God. Imagine if one was aware of the future calamities in advance, he would certainly die of anxiety and worry. In the poem, the poet gives the example of lamb, who likes its master's hand for taking good care of it. Not knowing that the same hand of his master would slaughter it. The poet compared men's life to a bubble of water. Men's lifespan is short and when it would end, only God knows. Men is ignorant of his future. This indeed is a great blessing of God.

Oh, blindness to the future! kindly given,  
That each may fill the circle marked by  
Heaven:

Extracted from the poem

**"Ignorance of future ills is a more useful thing than knowledge."**

Marcus Cicero

**Q6:** In what way is death a great teacher in the eyes of Alexander? (2012)

**ANS:** According to Alexander, death is a great teacher because it teaches us that this world is just like an inn where we have come for a brief sojourn. Our life is just like a bubble blown up in the air. Death reveals to us the secrets of the next world and mystery of life hereafter. It also teaches us the lesson of parity and equality by treating all living beings alike. The fear of death and life hereafter would prevent a man from committing sins as far as possible.

Hope humbly, then; with trembling pinions soar;

Wait the great teacher Death; and God adore.

## **THE SOLITARY REAPER**

**Q1: What is the poem "Solitary Reaper" about and what she was doing?**

**What did the poet do when he saw her?**

**Ans:** The poem "Solitary Reaper" is about a girl. The reaper, the girl, was reaping the crops with a sickle and binding afterward. She was also singing a melancholic song in her sweet voice.

The poet stood there motionless and kept listening to the song of Solitary Reaper. He asked his friends either to stop or pass silently without disturbing the lonely Reaper.

**" I listened motionless and still  
And, as I mounted up the hill "**

**Q2: What was the solitary reaper singing about?**

**OR**

**What does William Wordsworth guess about the theme of girl's song?**

**Ans:** In this poem, the poet, William Wordsworth did not know the language of the Solitary Reaper so it was not clear what she was singing about. He could not understand the theme of her song as she was singing in Gaelic, a Celtic language of Scotland. He thought that she was singing about some old and unhappy event or battle. He also guessed that the girl's song was about some tragic or serious day matter which had happened and might happen again in the future.

**" Whatever the theme, the Maiden sang As if her song could have no ending"**

**Q3: Briefly describe the incident that led Wordsworth to write "The Solitary Reaper"?**

**OR**

**What inspired Wordsworth to write the poem "The Solitary Reaper"?**

**Ans:** The production of Solitary Reaper by the poet of nature "William Wordsworth" was a result of one of his favorite expedition to enjoy with his friends, "nature" in the highlands of Scotland. Once, as usual, he was on his tour, he chanced to witness a highland girl who was reaping and binding crops alone while singing a sad and queer song in her extremely melodious voice that not only attracted the poet but it also add

beauty to the spectacular scene of the valley. The poet was so impressed that he felt that her song had a never ending effect.

“The music in my heart I bore Long  
after it was heard no more”

**Q4:** How does Wordsworth compare the song of Solitary Reaper to the song of Nightingale and Cuckoo?

**Ans:** In order to point out the sweetness of the girl's voice, the poet compared her song with the lovely and fascinating songs of two universally famous songbirds, Nightingale and Cuckoo. The poet thinks that no Nightingale had ever sung so pleasing and welcoming song for travelers in Arabian deserts nor anyone would have heard so thrilling voice from Cuckoo, which breaks the silence of seas among the Hebrides. Whereas, the voice of Highland girl was more charming and thrilling than the Nightingale and Cuckoo bird.

“ If music be the food of love, play on ”

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## MUSIC WHEN SOFT VOICES DIE

**Q1:** What is the central idea of the poem "Music when soft voices die"?

**Ans:** Shelley's idea behind this poem "Music when Soft voices die" is that beauty is immortal and beautiful things leave a permanent impression on our memory. The soft voices of music remain in our memory even when they have died. In a similar way, the smell of violets lives in our senses even when they have faded. Thus, every beautiful thing leaves a lasting effect on our senses and memory.

*"For love, beauty and delight, there is no death, nor change"*

**Q2:** What is the message of the poem?

**Ans:** The message of the poem is that spiritual existence of objects has much more importance than the physical existence. The flower may die but the fragrance of the flower and the impact induced by that fragrance is of real value. Similarly, the beloved one may depart but the memories associated with her are forever and of real value. Just as the pleasing voice of a singer, when no longer heard, is revived by its memory, similarly when the sweet violets of scent of flowers are dying, their fragrance can still be enjoyed in the memory.

*"Music, when soft voices die,  
Vibrates in the memory"*

## LINES FROM ENDYMION

**Q1:** What is the theme of the poem "Lines from Endymion"?

**Ans:** The poem entitled "Lines from Endymion" was composed by John Keats. Keats tells us that beauty is immortal and therefore, a thing of beauty is a joy forever. He explains how the beautiful objects of nature guide and help us in the miseries of the world. According to poet, beauty is a source that always makes us feel this world as a pleasing and calm place and induces us to sleep calmly. As a matter of fact nature is a source of ever-lasting pleasure to man.

"Love of beauty is taste.  
Creation of beauty is art"

**Q2: How does beauty make us attached to the world?**

**Ans:** Poet, John Keats, tells us that our love for beauty makes us attached to the world and every morning we find ourselves busier with worldly beauty than we were in the previous day. The poet also realizes that our world is full of sorrows and gloom, and that noble souls are very rare. Still we should remember that in this cruel atmosphere, beauty is the only thing that gives us encouragement and source of enthusiasm.

"The Future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams"

**Q3: How many beautiful objects are discussed in the poem "Lines from Endymion" which give us joy?**

OR

**What illustrations does the poet give for his perception about beauty?**

OR

**What things of beauty did Keats find most inspiring ?**

**Ans:** In this poem, Keats mentions the illustrations of the Sun, the moon and the shady trees that provide calming shade under which our sheep rest in summer. In the same way, the beauty of Daffodils, wrapped in green leaves around them and the clear streams of water makes a cool shelter against hot season. All these factors keep a sheep happy in its natural atmosphere and without all these the world means nothing to it. He injects us to enjoy the beauty of these objects of nature as well.

"A thing of beauty is a joy forever"

"To love beauty is to see light"

**Q4: How can we make our life happy with the help of beauty?**

**Ans:** According to poet's judgment, all sorrow, problems, evils of our lives are our own created but if we get a chance to enjoy beautiful things, the gloomy effect of these evils can be removed from our spirits and we can feel fresh and happy. The poet means to



say that the joy and happiness we get because of beautiful things is due to the effort that they minimize our sorrow and we feel refresh.

“Love is the beauty of soul”

## **SAY NOT THE STRUGGLE NAUGHT AVAILETH**

**Q1: What is the message of the poem “Say Not the Struggle Naught Avaleth”**

**Ans:** In this poem, Arthur Clough, gives the message that we should never think that efforts are useless and they have no effect on the enemy. Every effort has its effect although sometimes it so happen that the results of our labour do not come immediately. He argues that we should continue our efforts and never feel disappointed. Infact, the poet advises that if we want to achieve something we should work continuously.

“Without hard work, nothing grows but weeds”

**Q2: What does the poet want to tell us in “ Say Not the Struggle Naught Avaleth” by giving the example of the rising sun?**

**Ans:** The poet want to tell us that we should work like that of rising sun. He says that if we see the sun rising in the morning, we observe that it climbs very slowly and we cannot imagine that it will disappear from here and go to the West but it does. Although the movement of Sun is very slow yet continuous. Therefore, we should work like the rising sun continuously and constantly whether it is slow if we want to achieve something in the world.

“Success is the result of perfection, hard work, loyalty,  
learning from failure and persistence”



## **LINES FROM ULYSSES**

**Q1: What is the message of the poem "Lines from Ulysses"?**

**Ans:** The message of the poem is that man may become weak physically in his old age but spiritually the man remain strong as the young ones. Old age is no reason for regret. We are strong in will and determination. With the help of power, courage and determination, we must keep struggling until our last breath.

**"Defeat the defeat, before defeat defeat's you"**

**Q2: What moral does the poem "Lines from Ulysses" teach?**

**Ans:** The moral of the poem entitled "Lines from Ulysses" by Lord Alfred Tennyson is that every moment of life is vital. We must struggle ceaseless against any odd for the achievement of our goal following the motto,

**"To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield"**

**Q3: What lesson did Ulysses give to his sailors?**

**OR**

**How did Ulysses inspire his sailors to go on a new journey?**

**Ans:** Poet, Ulysses, induced his men in his last address to go with him on last voyage. He encouraged them that they had been old and weak but old age had its honor and they could still achieve something remarkable. He also warned them the dangers of the voyage to say that they might be killed by the gulfs. He pleased them to say that they might reach the happy Isles and see the Archilles, the great Greek warrior. In fact Ulysses wanted his men to fulfill his desire of doing some notable work before they died.

**"Honorable death is better than defeat"**

English XII

**DADA OFFICAL**

**XII Play**

**Part 3**

**PLAY**



## XII PLAY

PRIZNOR OF ZENDA.....44.

By J.H. Walsh

London → England

Lord Robert Burlusdon (Bob)

Lady Rose Burlusdon <sup>wife</sup> ↑

Rudolf Ressen dyll (Hero)

Classical Hero

29 years old

6'2 height

well educated

Sword man

Marksman / Good shooter

red hair

long nose

Blue eyes

→ ELPHERG'S  
CHARACTERISTICS

Lord Burlusdon

Lady Amalie

Rudolf Elphberg - I

Rudolf Elphberg - II

Rudolf Elphberg - III

Rudolf Elphberg - IV

RUTRIANA (Imaginary  
country in  
Europe)

↓  
Zenda (estate)

↓  
Strelsau (capital)

↓  
Rudolf elphberg - V

Princess Flavia

Duke (Black) Michael

→ Prince to be crowned  
1<sup>st</sup> cousin of Prince  
by his fiancée.

→ Governor of Strelsau  
Step brother of prince  
by issue of morganatic  
marriage

→ Lady Amalie  
(child)



# PRIZNOR OF ZENDA

by Anthony Hope

## INTRODUCTION:

The novel "Prisoner of Zenda" is written by Anthony Hope. Anthony Hope's swashbuckling romance transports his English gentleman hero, Rudolf Rassendyll, from a comfortable life in London to a fast-paced, adventurous life in Ruritania, a mythical land steeped in political intrigue.

**Q1:** Which incident in the novel appears most interesting to you and why?

**Ans:** FORCING THE TRAP

The most stirring and thrilling incident in "The Prisoner of Zenda" is what the novelist calls the forcing of the trap. It depicts to the reader the daring attempt made by Rassendyll, Sapt, Fritz and their party to rescue the King from the castle of Zenda; where the Duke of Streilsau kept him a prisoner. Hard work was required to free King Elphberg from the clutches of the Duke, who was bent upon getting the throne, even if it necessitated the murder of the King. Sapt and Fritz, who were staunch supporters of the King, were determined to free him; but this was possible only if bold steps were taken to achieve the purpose. There were two alternatives for them. They could launch a direct attack on the castle and openly declare war against the Duke and free the King by using the armed forces or they could run a cover operation and rescue the King discreetly. Sapt and Fritz wanted to keep the whole enterprise a secret and this forced them to use a small and of friends who could be expected to keep the secret. The crossing of the moat and finally the entry into the castle was difficult. Inside the castle were the Six, Duke Michael's brutes. They were his trusted friends and helpers. The party had to go through them to rescue the King.

**"If you play the man; you may save the King"**

**Q2:** How did the King keep his appointment at the coronation?

**Ans:** The scheme was successfully put into practice. Rudolf was anointed to the church and crowned the King of Ruritania. Rudolf had become such a successful understudy none was able to detect the impersonation. Even Princess Flavia, who was to marry the King, was the only one able to notice the slight change. She was very clever and intelligent and did notice that the behavior of the King had undergone a change, but she considered this the result of coronation and the assumption of the authority and responsibility.

The things were going on smoothly and the fraud would have been a grand and easy success; but Black Michael, was too clever for them. Through his secret agency he came to know that the King was at the hunting lodge in Zenda. He took effective steps to take possession of the King and transfer him to the castle where the King became his prisoner.

After this coronation ceremony, Rudolf Rassendyll and Sapt attended a banquet given in honour of the King. It was at this banquet that Rudolf Rassendyll first met Princess Flavia. This

meeting had important effects on the future as they fell in love with each other at the first meeting.

**"We must, however, acknowledge, as it seems to me, that man with all his noble qualities"**

**Q3: Why were the relations between Rupert of Hentzau and Black Michael strained?**

**Ans:** There came off a chance meeting between Rassendyll and Rupert of Hentzau; but they had to fight because they had met in a public place to keep up the illusion. It was during this meeting that Rassendyll came to know that relations between the duke and Rupert of Hentzau had become strained. The reason of this quarrel was that Rupert had begun to show his leanings towards Madame de Mauban and the Duke resented this.

Rupert went so far as to suggest Rassendyll that they too should join hands and kill Michael as well as the king. After these dual murders, Rassendyll would rule over Ruritania as King while Rupert would be his trusted friend and supporter. This suggestion was disapproved of by Rassendyll, who refused to join hands with such a wicked man as Rupert. He however, tried to enlist the support of Rupert to free the king from captivity. Rupert did not agree to this and went away. At another meeting, he delivered a letter from Madame de Mauban in which she had requested him for help.

**"Villains and plots and enemies are simple things to me. But friendships are complicated, and love is harder still."**

**Q4: Describe in detail how Flavia learnt the truth about the King and how she took it.**

**Ans:** Since Johann had been wounded in the fight between Michael and Rupert, Sapt's party could not go into the castle with Johann and Rudolf had to change to plan to save Madame de Mauban. When, eventually, Sapt and his party reached the New Castle, they found Michael dead.

Sapt now had to make the real King take place of Rassendyll and put out a story, which would explain the events of the fight without disclosing the fact that Rassendyll had been posing as the King since the day of the coronation. The story was put out that Michael was killed, and the King was gravely wounded when he went to rescue his friend from an illegal detention in Zenda.

However, Princess Flavia insisted on seeing the wounded King at once. She was riding to the castle when Rassendyll, supported by Fritz had reached the edge of the forest by the road to the castle. The farm girl, seeing Rassendyll and believing him to be the King, ran to the Princess saying that the King was wounded and lying in the nearby bushes. Princess Flavia, with Sapt walked up to the wounded Rassendyll. He and Sapt now had to tell her that Rassendyll was not the real king.

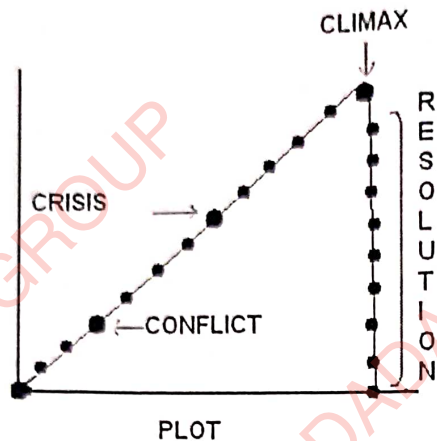
**"The fate of love is that it always seems too little or too much."**

**Q5: Give a brief critical review of the novel 'The Prisoner of Zenda'.**

**Ans: CRITICAL REVIEW**



Anthony Hope does one of the most creative things a writer can do, by creating a fictitious world which collides with the real world, a story that binds us as if by a spell and shows the human character as its best and worst. The plot may easily be explained on a simple graph.



The beginning of the novel gives a clear and interesting exposition of the extra vacation story and romantic setting with a remarkable degree of conviction. Event after event, a temporary conflict rises where Rassendyll has to impersonate the King for only one day. Some incidents full of thrill and sensation strengthen the conflict, it becomes crisis when the incident "A new use for a tea table" occurs. How beautifully Hope manipulates the situation that Rassendyll, the Sapt and Fritz cannot act openly against Michael without gravely risking the King's life or disclosing the secret of Rassendyll on the other side the enemies dare not expose the reality because of the fear of revealing their own treason. This situation springs a fascinating tale of plot and counter plot and violent action from both sides.

**Q6: What was the importance of the first chance meeting of the hero with King Rudolf and his personal bodyguards in the forest of Zenda?**

**Ans:** The first chance meeting between Rassendyll and King Rudolf played a very important part in the life of the hero and gave birth to a series of adventures. On reaching Zenda from France, Rassendyll proceeded to the forest of Zenda in order to enjoy the natural beauty. Coincidentally, King Rudolf was staying at a shooting lodge upon Duke Michael's invitation. Michael was secretly planning to get the King kidnapped just before the coronation and capture the throne. In the forest, Rassendyll came across the King's personal bodyguards, Col. Sapt and Captain Fritz who were astonished to see the amazing resemblance between Rassendyll and the King.



Rudolf Elphberg. Then, the King, approached there and he too, was quite surprised to see the stranger who looked exactly like him. The King invited Rassendyll to accompany him to the shooting lodge where all of them enjoyed plenty of wine and food. Then, the King drank a bottle of drugged wine sent by Michael and fainted. That critical situation asked of a great schemer like Col. Sapt and a lover of adventure like Rassendyll to protect the throne.

**"There is no moral authority like that of sacrifice."**

**Q7: Why was Michael helpless and not in a position to expose Rassendyll although he knew that, Rassendyll was an imposter?**

**Ans:** After the coronation ceremony, Michael, frustrated and confused as he was, preceded to Zenda to investigate as to how the King managed to attend the coronation ceremony in spite of having drunk the drugged wine sent by him. There, he came to know that the real king had been kidnapped by his men and was kept in the old castle of Zenda. In a short time, Michael also discovered that a British citizen arriving in Zenda had been used by Col. Sapt to play the part of the King at the coronation.

Michael knew all the facts but he found himself helpless and unable to expose the imposter and play-actor, Rassendyll. If he had tried to disclose to the people of Ruritania and the royal family that Rassendyll was ruling the country in the disguise of King Rudolf, he would not have been able to prove it without exposing his own crime. It was not at all possible for Michael to produce the captured King, kidnapped by his order, to prove that Rassendyll was not the real King but an imposter.

**"Evil nature breeds evil acts."**

**Q8: Why did Lady Mauban try to help Rassendyll against Duke Michael?**

**Ans:** Lady Mauban was Michael's beloved and she had reached Zenda from France in response to the marriage proposal by Duke Michael.

On reaching Zenda, she came to know that Michael was not sincere to her and he had betrayed her through false promise of marriage. She also felt frustrated when she came to know that Michael was secretly planning to seize the throne and marry Princess Flavia.

As a result, she decided to safeguard her own interests at any cost and prevent Michael from marrying Flavia. Therefore, taking great risk, she reached the summerhouse at midnight to help Rassendyll against Michael. She disclosed to Rassendyll Michael's plan who wanted to trap Rassendyll at the summerhouse and get him killed. She told him that Michael had deputed three professional killers to capture and kill him. She was aware of the fact that in case Rassendyll was killed, Michael would become the King and marry Princess Flavia. For that reason, Lady Mauban decided to help Rassendyll.

**"They love each other as men do who want the same place and the same wife"**

**Q9. How did Princess Flavia prove, in the end of the novel that she wanted to uphold the honor and prestige of her homeland and family?**

**Ans:** Princess Flavia is not at all portrayed by the author as a mere showpiece in the novel. She was an extremely dedicated, sincere and sensible young lady. At the end of the novel, the tender heart of Flavia had to sustain severe shock when she came to know the shocking reality that the center of her love and devotion was not King Rudolf but an English young man in disguise. However, she displayed remarkable courage and sense of duty. She confessed to Rassendyll that she loved him more than her life but she was determined to uphold her family honor and the prestige of her homeland. She made it clear to him that she would prefer to sacrifice her love for the sake of honor and duty. The noble and daring decision glorified the character of Princess Flavia and earned her great respect and love from the readers.

**"If love were all, I could follow you – in rags if need to the world's end; for you hold my heart in the hollow of your hand."**

**Q10. Who were "The Six" and what kind of role did they play in the novel?**

**Ans:** The author of the novel has used the term "The Six" for a gang of six dangerous villains and professional killers whom Duke Michael had employed to carry out all types of unlawful jobs to help achieve his evil aims. They were devoted to him body and soul but, at a later stage in the novel, one of them, Rupert of Hentzau kills Michael in a fight. Three of "The Six", including Rupert, belonged to Ruritania; the other two were Lauengram and Krafstein who got killed in a clash, at night, near the moat, by the party of Rassendyll and Sapt.

Three villains, De Gaulet, Detchard and Bersonim were hired by Michael from France, England and Belgium respectively. Rassendyll killed these three of the gang on the night of the final encounter and rescues the captive king. The only person who survived in the end and escaped unharmed, was Rupert of Hentzau, riding away after an armed clash with Rassendyll in the forest and not seen by anybody on the soil of Ruritania after that night.

**"They belong to him body and soul."**

**Q11. 'Before God, you're the finest Elphberg of them all'. Who is being referred to in the quoted lines and why?**

**Ans:** In these lines, Rudolf Rassendyll is being referred as the finest Elphberg because of the way he ruled Ruritania in the span of those few days. The emotions and sentiments he showed in the favor of the royal family and Ruritania, and how he performed his duty with the utmost sincerity and loyalty, was something only an honourable man can



do. In spite of having all the love and trust of Flavia at his side, he never wronged her. He always respected her. Being on the throne, he never forgot that he was not the real heir of the throne.

**“You’re an Elphberg, every inch of you.”**

**Q12: How did Sapt and Fritz serve Rudolf Rassendyll?**

**Ans:** Sapt and Fritz, along with the princess had a long meeting with King, discussing the events and the plans to be followed in future. Rudolf was lying still, thinking of whatever had happened to him, when the King called him. The King thanked him for his services and for the way, he showed to him, of being a king. Rudolf paid farewell to him and then had a last painful interview with the princess. In his last meeting with her, he told her how much he loved her and asked her to do what she must do. Princess said that although she loved him too but she had certain responsibilities which had priority over her feelings. They agreed that the interests of kingdom must be placed before their love. Sapt and Fritz escorted Rassendyll to a station across the frontier and bade him goodbye. Fritz, in the honour of Rassendyll’s services uncovered his head and bowed and kissed his hand and said:

**“Heaven doesn’t always the right men king”**

**Q13: Why does Rudolf Rassendyll disguise himself as Rudolf Elphberg? OR give a comparison between Rudolf Rassendyll and Rudolf Elphberg.**

**Ans:** The events in the novel ‘The Prisoner of Zenda’ take a dramatic turn when Rassendyll’s desire to see King Rudolf’s coronation turns into an adventure of a lifetime and becomes a matter of political necessity for Rassendyll to be disguised as the King of Ruritania. As a matter of fact, Rudolf Elphberg is unconscious on the day of his coronation because of the drugged wine he drank the previous night. The so-called rare, old wine in a wicker-covered bottle was a gift from Duke Michael. Realizing the seriousness of the situation, Colonel Sapt persuades Rassendyll to impersonate as the King of Ruritania. He gives various reasons to convince him: firstly, Rudolf Rassendyll and Rudolf Elphberg are almost identical in appearance; secondly, the throne is lost if the king does not appear for the coronation because Duke Michael will seize the throne for himself; thirdly, they cannot give the excuse of his illness because people know his ‘illness’ too well; and lastly, Rassendyll has to be the King only for one day. The plan is that Sapt and he will return to the shooting lodge in Zenda that night. Rassendyll will leave Ruritania and Sapt will take Rudolf Elphberg back to Strelsau. Rassendyll agrees to the plan and successfully goes through the coronation.

**“You’re an Elphberg, every inch of you.”**



**Q14: Who was the prisoner of Zenda? Why was he imprisoned?**

**Ans:** The King Rudolf Elphberg was the prisoner of Zenda. He was imprisoned by his stepbrother Black Michael. Black Michael is the product of a morganatic marriage of the late king Rudolf Elphberg IV. No doubt, he is a capable administrator and has good experiences of his past performance. But the nobility of Ruritania does not approve of his selection for the position of the king. He was a powerful prince enjoying complete power over the administration as the duke and governor of the City of Strelsau. The state of Zenda and castle of Zenda belonged to him.

**“Evil nature breeds evil acts.”**

### **IMPORTANT INCIDENTS**

#### **THE FIRST MEETING OF THE TWO RUDOLFS**

This incident belongs to the “Exposition” of the novel “The Prisoner of Zenda”. Anthony Hope has manipulated the plot of the story in such a beautiful manner that the reader enjoys full adventurous spirit of it.

When this interesting incident occurs, Rudolf Elphberg, the King is hunting in the forest near Zenda just a day before the coronation ceremony. His two friends Colonel Sapt and Fritz are moving in the forest. Suddenly, they see a stranger, who resembles their king.

The stranger is visiting from England for a change and for attending the coronation. He is staying in a small inn at Zenda and was wandering in the forest when he came across the companions of the King and is acquainted with them. In the meantime the king also appears. He is very much surprised to see a man, very much like him. Colonel Sapt describes the scandal of the Elphbergs and the Burlesdons, which has caused this striking resemblance. The King realizes the distant blood relationship between him and Rassendyll. Rassendyll finds some points of difference between them too but declares them as negligible. Furthermore, when Rassendyll tells them about his plan to attend the coronation ceremony, Colonel Sapt and Fritz both object to his going to Strelsau. On the contrary, Rudolf Elphberg does not take it seriously and allows him to. He invites Rassendyll to an informal dinner at the shooting lodge. They enjoy the company followed with dinner and drinks. This continues till at night.

#### **THE SUMMERHOUSE INCIDENT/ A NIGHT OUTSIDE THE CASTLE/ A NEW USE FOR A TEA-TABLE**

This incident belongs to the "Crisis" of the novel "The Prisoner of Zenda". Anthony Hope has manipulated the plot of the story in such a beautiful manner that the reader enjoys full adventurous and thrilling spirit of it.

After the coronation ceremony, when there was a deadlock between the two rivals: Rassendyll and Michael, Rassendyll continues to impersonate the King. One day, Rassendyll receives a letter from a lady, who afterward comes to be recognized as Madame De Mauban, requesting him to visit the summerhouse for information about the King. It is said that he should come alone to settle the matters. Rassendyll discusses it with Colonel Sapt, who suggests it as one of the traps from the enemy. Rassendyll makes up his mind to face the situation. He visits the summerhouse, followed by Col. Sapt for defense. Entering the gate of the summer house, he comes across a woman in total darkness. She is Madame De Mauban. She warns him against Michael. In fact, she betrays Michael because she does not wish him to marry Princess Flavia. In a moment, the three of Michael's Six: Detchard, Bersonin and De Gautet come to attack and kill Rassendyll. He controls his senses and feels their cruel intentions. First, they offer him a sum of fifty thousand pounds and a safe conduct to the frontier. When Rassendyll pretends as if he accepts their offer, they prepare themselves for the butchery they have come to execute on Michael's command. He catches hold of an iron table, which is lying there in a way that it works as a shield for his body against enemy's fire and throws it on them. They are trapped under it. In this way, he makes a narrow escape and he rides back to the palace safe and sound. There he tells the story to his friends who enjoy it and warns him to avoid such careless and risky visits in the future.

#### THE CORONATION CEREMONY

The incident of the coronation ceremony is a very glamorous and interesting one, which occurs in chapters four, five and six of the novel "The Prisoner of Zenda". This incident helps generate a "temporary conflict" in the story. The author has discussed each detail of the procession, which passes through the streets of the capital city "Strelsau".

When at last, Rudolf Rassendyll, impersonating the King of Ruritania reaches the Cathedral; he finds a grand building, which was tastefully decorated with statues and pictures. Rudolf says that on entering the church, he fully realizes what dangers he is going to brave in this adventure which he has so carelessly undertaken. In the church, he meets Princess Flavia for the first time as well as Black Michael who are his near relations since he is acting as the King. Here the expressions of Michael are noticeable because he has not been aware of the fact that his plan has been dragged down into the mire through the wise decision of Sapt. He has been living in the fool's paradise that he would have been the king after some time, when Rudolf Elphberg could not have made himself present at the coronation. However, when he looks at Rassendyll, supposing him to be the king, his complexion suddenly changes and he is stunned. Rudolf Rassendyll kneels down before the Cardinal, who anoints his head and presents to him the crown of Ruritania. After all the ceremony necessary for his coronation has been performed, the Marshal gives orders to the heralds to proclaim him the King of Ruritania. Then Princess comes to him and greets him as King. The Cardinal presented to him a letter from the Pope.



The last person who comes to meet him is Black Michael. The two supposed brothers embrace each other with an outward show of love and regards. No one in the church, present or shows any signs of doubt as to Rudolf's impersonation. Rassendyll serves the purpose and everyone in the church comes and kisses his hand to pay homage to the new King. Then the procession marches back through the streets and goes to the Royal Palace. Rudolf is in a carriage along with Princess Flavia and he plays his part so well that even Princess Flavia cannot find out that she is not talking to the real King. Talking thus, they arrive at the palace and hear the boom of guns and blare of trumpets.

#### PAST PAPER QUESTIONS:

- 1) Why does Rudolf Rassendyll disguise himself as Rudolf Elphberg? OR give a comparison between Rudolf Rassendyll and Rudolf Elphberg. (2014,2013,2010)
- 2) Describe any important incident of the novel 'The Prisoner of Zenda'. (2014)
- 3) Why did lady Mauban try to help Rassendyll against Duke Michael? OR Did lady Mauban betray Duke Michael rightly? Comment with reasons.
- 4) Who was the prisoner of zenda? Why was he imprisoned of zenda? (2013,2014)
- 5) "Rupert is really a daredevil" comment on it. (2012)
- 6) What makes lady Mauban side with Rassendyll and his party? (2012)
- 7) Who persuades Rassendyll to impersonate as the king of Ruritania and why? (2012)
- 8) Comment briefly on the Tea table incidence. (2011).
- 9) Why could Duke Michael not succeed in his conspiracy to become the King of Ruritania?(2011)
- 10) Describe briefly "The Coronation Ceremony" of Rudolf Rassendyll. (2010)
- 11) What role did madam de Mauban perform in the story "The Prisoner of Zenda"? (2010)

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### Glossary:

<b>Mythical</b>	occurring in or characteristic of myths or folk tales
<b>Swashbuckle</b>	engage in daring and romantic adventures with bravado
<b>Stirring</b>	causing excitement or strong emotion; rousing.
<b>Depicts</b>	portray in words; describe.
<b>Staunch</b>	very loyal and committed in attitude.
<b>Anoint</b>	rub with oil, typically as part of a religious ceremony.
<b>Impersonation</b>	an act of pretending to be another person for the purpose of entertainment or fraud
<b>Coronation</b>	the ceremony of crowning a sovereign
<b>Illusion</b>	an instance of misinterpreted perception of a sensory experience.
<b>Quarrel</b>	have a heated argument or disagreement.
<b>Wound</b>	an injury to living tissue caused by a cut, blow, or other impact
<b>Conviction</b>	a formal declaration by the verdict of a jury that someone is guilty of a criminal offence.
<b>Gravely</b>	to a degree that gives cause for alarm.
<b>Spring</b>	move or jump suddenly or rapidly upwards or forwards
<b>Coincidentally</b>	in a way that results from chance despite being very unlikely.
<b>Astonish</b>	surprise or impress (someone) greatly
<b>Faint</b>	feeling weak and dizzy and close to losing consciousness
<b>Imposter</b>	a person who pretends to be someone else in order to deceive others,
<b>Prestige</b>	widespread respect felt for someone or something on the basis of a perception of their achievements or quality

<b>Sentiment</b>	a view or opinion that is held or expressed.
<b>Conscious</b>	aware of and responding to one's surroundings.
<b>Lodge</b>	a small house at the gates of a park or in the grounds of a large house, occupied by a gatekeeper or other employee.
<b>Complexion</b>	the natural colour, texture, and appearance of a person's skin, especially of the face.
<b>Embrace</b>	hold (someone) closely in one's arms, especially as a sign of affection
<b>Procession</b>	a number of people or vehicles moving forward in an orderly fashion, especially as part of a ceremony
<b>Trumpets</b>	a brass musical instrument with a flared bell and a bright, penetrating tone. The modern instrument has the tubing looped to form a straight-sided coil, with three valves.

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